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EXAMINER

BLACKWELL, JAMES H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2004

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/714,024

Applicant(s)

GUTTMAN ET AL.

Examiner

James H Blackwell

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 November 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harvey (Excel 2000 for Windows for Dummies, IDG Books Worldwide, Copyright 1999).

In regard to independent Claim 1, Harvey teaches in Fig. 10-11 creating a new web page containing a fully interactive first-quarter sales (web-based) table as it appears when opened with the Microsoft Internet Explorer 5 web browser (p. 318, 2nd paragraph; compare to Claim 1, ***“A method of displaying a web-based spreadsheet, ...”***). Harvey also teaches publishing a spreadsheet to a web site making it accessible to a web browser on a company Intranet. Once set up in a Web folder, a web file can be opened from this site with a URL (pp. 336-338; Figs. 10-22, -24; compare to Claim 1, ***“sending a request to a server to retrieve the web-based spreadsheet; receiving at least part of a web page in response to the request; executing information in the received web page to display the web-based spreadsheet”***). Harvey also teaches changing the contents of a particular cell in the web-based spreadsheet (p. 319, Fig. 10-11; compare to Claim 1, ***“executing information in the received web page to allow a user to enter information into the cells of the web-based***

spreadsheet. Harvey also teaches (in Figs. 10-14 and 10-15) an order form in the web-based spreadsheet. The order form contains all the formulas necessary to compute the extended prices for each type of pie ordered as well as the subtotal for all pies ordered, and applicable tax, and, finally, the order's grand total. Compare to Claim 1, ***"executing information in the received web page to update cells dependent of the cells changed by the user"***.

In regard to dependent Claim 2, Harvey teaches publishing a web page by first creating a Web Folder. Once created, the Web Folder can contain, among other things, Excel interactive web pages and is accessed by a Uniform resource Locator (URL) typed into a web browser (client) and hitting Enter (thus requesting the web page associated with the URL from the Web Server (pp. 334-338; compare to Claim 2, ***"... sending the request includes sending a request from a client to the server"***).

In regard to dependent Claim 16, Harvey teaches publishing a web page by first creating a Web Folder. Once created, the Web Folder can contain, among other things, Excel interactive web pages and is accessed by a Uniform resource Locator (URL) typed into a web browser (client) and hitting Enter (thus requesting the web page associated with the URL from the Web Server (pp. 334-338; compare to Claim 16, ***"... the user is connected to the server via the World Wide Web"***).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 41-43, and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Shadoff (Lewis Shadoff, JavaScript-based Web spreadsheet, Copyright 1997).

In regard to dependent Claim 3, Harvey fails to teach *the information in the received web page is JavaScript*. However, Shadoff teaches a web page containing JavaScript that when executed on a web browser creates a web-based spreadsheet (see web page and source code). Compare to Claim 3, “... ***the information in the received web page is JavaScript***”. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Shadoff providing the benefit of a scripting language to implement a web-based spreadsheet.

In regard to independent Claim 41, Harvey teaches in Fig. 10-11 creating a new web page containing a fully interactive first-quarter sales (web-based) table as it appears when opened with the Microsoft Internet Explorer 5 web browser (p. 318, 2nd paragraph; compare to Claim 41, “***A method of displaying a web-based spreadsheet, comprising***”). Harvey also teaches publishing a spreadsheet to a web site making it accessible to a web browser on a company Intranet. Once set up in a Web folder, a web file can be opened from this site with a URL (pp. 336-338; Figs. 10-22, -24; compare to Claim 41, “***sending a request to a server to retrieve the web-based spreadsheet; receiving at least part of a web page in response to the***”).

request; executing macros in the received web page to display the web-based spreadsheet"). Harvey also teaches changing the contents of a particular cell in the web-based spreadsheet (p. 319, Fig. 10-11; compare to Claim 41, ***"executing macros in the received web page to allow the user to enter information into the cells of the web-based spreadsheet"***). Harvey also teaches (in Figs. 10-14 and 10-15) an order form in the web-based spreadsheet. The order form contains all the formulas necessary to compute the extended prices for each type of pie ordered as well as the subtotal for all pies ordered, and applicable tax, and, finally, the order's grand total. Compare to Claim 41, ***"executing macros in the received web page to update cells dependent on the cells changed by the user"***. Harvey does not specifically teach about *executing macros*. However, Shadoff performs basic functions such as those taught by Harvey using JavaScript that acts as a macro language. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to combine the teachings of Harvey and Shadoff providing the benefit of executing and displaying a web-based spreadsheet.

In regard to dependent Claim 42, Harvey teaches publishing a web page by first creating a Web Folder. Once created, the Web Folder can contain, among other things, Excel interactive web pages and is accessed by a Uniform resource Locator (URL) typed into a web browser (client) and hitting Enter (thus requesting the web page associated with the URL from the Web Server (pp. 334-338; compare to Claim 42, ***"... sending the request includes sending a request from a client to the server"***).

In regard to dependent Claim 43, Harvey fails to teach *the information in the received web page is JavaScript*. However, Shadoff teaches a web page containing JavaScript that when executed on a web browser creates a web-based spreadsheet (see web page and source code). Compare to Claim 43, “... ***the information in the received web page is JavaScript***”. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Shadoff providing the benefit of a scripting language to implement a web-based spreadsheet.

In regard to dependent Claim 56, Harvey teaches publishing a web page by first creating a Web Folder. Once created, the Web Folder can contain, among other things, Excel interactive web pages and is accessed by a Uniform resource Locator (URL) typed into a web browser (client) and hitting Enter (thus requesting the web page associated with the URL from the Web Server (pp. 334-338; compare to Claim 56, “... ***the user is connected to the server via the World Wide Web***”).

5. Claims 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Garman (U.S. Patent No. 5,926,822).

In regard to dependent Claim 4, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell or macro of the web-based spreadsheet contains live data that is updates periodically as the spreadsheet is being displayed*. However, Garman teaches that in a spreadsheet environment, it is now common to import and use real-time data items from external real time data sources. In particular, means are commonly provided to import "real time data items" ("RTDIs") into individual spreadsheet cells, such RTDIs frequently being numeric

data generated by an external physical process. In general, such RTDIs appear within spreadsheets as simple numeric values that change from time to time. These data items are "real-time," in the sense that they reflect the almost-current state of the process that they attempt to describe. (Col. 1, lines 31-43; compare to Claim 4, "**... at least one cell or macro of the web-based spreadsheet contains live data that is updates periodically as the spreadsheet is being displayed**"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of live and current financial data.

In regard to dependent Claim 5, Harvey fails to teach that *the live data is stock quotation information*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 5, "**... the live data is stock quotation information**"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 6, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information is obtained from the server*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a

computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 6, “... ***the stock quotation information is obtained from the server***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 7, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information is obtained from a third party*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 7, “... ***the stock quotation information is obtained from a third party***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 8, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information also includes historical information for a stock*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 8, “... ***the stock quotation information also includes historical information for a stock***”). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 9, Harvey fails to teach that *the live data is currency conversion information*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 9, “... ***the live data is currency conversion information***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 10, Harvey fails to teach *the currency conversion information is obtained from the server*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim, “... ***the currency conversion information is obtained from the server***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 11, Harvey fails to teach that *the currency conversion information is obtained from a third party*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 11, “... ***the currency conversion information is obtained from a third party***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

6. Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Hallberg et al. (hereinafter Hallberg, “Using Microsoft Excel 97,” Copyright 1997).

In regard to dependent Claim 12, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains a link to a web page*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink in an empty cell in the worksheet (pp. 596-601; compare to Claim 12, “... ***at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains a link to a web page***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Hallberg providing the benefit of linking to other related documents.

In regard to dependent Claim 13, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from an address on the World Wide Web*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink using a picture or any other object that has been embedded in an Excel workbook (pp. 598-601; compare to Claim 13, “... ***at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from an address on the World Wide Web***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Hallberg providing the benefit of including images to enhance the content in a web-based spreadsheet.

In regard to dependent Claim 14, Harvey teaches setting the current Column width and the current Row height thereby expanding the size of cells (p. 321, Table 10-1; compare to Claim 14, “... ***allowing the user to expand the size of the cell to view more of the image***”).

In regard to dependent Claim 15, Harvey fails to teach *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from a data processing device connected to the user via a network*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink in an empty cell in the worksheet (pp. 596-601; compare to Claim 15, “... ***at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from a data processing device connected to the user via a network***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey and Hallberg providing the benefit of incorporating an image from another web site into the web-based spreadsheet.

7. Claims 17-19, 21, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Cho et al. (hereinafter Cho, U.S. Patent No. 6,341,292).

In regard to independent Claim 17, Harvey teaches in Fig. 10-11 creating a new web page containing a fully interactive first-quarter sales (web-based) table as it appears when opened with the Microsoft Internet Explorer 5 web browser (p. 318, 2nd paragraph; compare to Claim 17, ***“A method of allowing a user to design a web-based spreadsheet, comprising”***). Harvey also teaches publishing a spreadsheet to a web site making it accessible to a web browser on a company Intranet. Once set up in a Web folder, a web file can be opened from this site with a URL (pp. 336-338; Figs. 10-22, -24; compare to Claim 17, ***“executing information in a received web page to display an initial web-based spreadsheet”***). Harvey also teaches changing the contents of a particular cell in the web-based spreadsheet (p. 319, Fig. 10-11; compare to Claim 17, ***“executing information in a received web page to allow the user to enter information into the cells of the web-based spreadsheet”***). Harvey fails to teach *sending a number of rows and columns of the web based spreadsheet and the information entered by the user to a server for storage on the server*. However, Cho teaches a method and system that is Web-based and utilizes conventional browser and spreadsheet technology to achieve collaborative exchanges of information on an enterprise-wide basis. The method and system also facilitate efficacious remote information access and exchange, e.g., over a computer network such as the Internet

and/or the World Wide Web, through a caching function that combines individual queries initiated by a spreadsheet program before transmitting across a network to a server for consideration (see Abstract; compare to Claim 17, ***"sending a number of rows and columns of the web based spreadsheet and the information entered by the user to a server for storage on the server; sending a request to the server to retrieve the web-based spreadsheet"***). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Harvey and Cho providing the benefit of helping a collaboration of users create and use spreadsheets over the World Wide Web.

In regard to dependent Claim 18, Harvey teaches sending worksheets via email (pp. 341-344; compare to Claim 18, ***"... e-mailing a link to the spreadsheet, including: allowing the user to click on an "e-mail this page" button; allowing the user to enter a recipient's address"***).

In regard to dependent Claim 19, Harvey teaches adding worksheet data to an existing web page (pp. 328-329; compare to Claim 19, ***"... embedding the spreadsheet in a web page to create an embedded HTML web page, comprising"***). Harvey also teaches editing worksheet web pages using Microsoft Word as an editor (pp. 329-330; compare to Claim 19, ***"displaying an HTML code including a spreadsheet ID of the spreadsheet; allowing the user to copy the HTML code and paste it into the web page's HTML"***).

In regard to dependent Claim 21, Harvey teaches previewing web pages with your browser using the File -> Web Page Preview command on the menu bar (p. 335,

Fig. 10-21; compare to Claim 21, "... ***the spreadsheet is displayed on a client system***").

In regard to dependent Claim 36, Harvey teaches publishing a web page by first creating a Web Folder. Once created, the Web Folder can contain, among other things, Excel interactive web pages and is accessed by a Uniform resource Locator (URL) typed into a web browser (client) and hitting Enter (thus requesting the web page associated with the URL from the Web Server (pp. 334-338; compare to Claim 36, "... ***the user is connected to the server via the World Wide Web***").

8. Claim 20 is ^{rejected under} ~~referred~~ 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Cho and in further view of Garrett (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,738).

In regard to dependent Claim 20, Harvey fails to teach that *the embedded HTML web page includes "JavaScript include" tags*. However, Garrett teaches a web page that contains a JavaScript include (Col. 17, Appendix, code lines 40-41). Compare to Claim 20, "... ***the embedded HTML web page includes 'JavaScript include' tags***". It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garrett providing the benefit of an enhanced online shopping experience.

9. Claims 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Cho and in further view of Shadoff.

In regard to dependent Claim 22, Harvey fails to teach that *JavaScript Dynamic HTML is downloaded to the client system, the JavaScript including functionality, format and content of the spreadsheet web page*. However, Shadoff teaches a web page containing JavaScript that when executed on a web browser creates a web-based spreadsheet (see web page and source code). Compare to Claim 22, “... **JavaScript Dynamic HTML is downloaded to the client system, the JavaScript including functionality, format and content of the spreadsheet web page**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Shadoff providing the benefit of code to have generated a web-based spreadsheet.

In regard to dependent Claim 23, Harvey fails to teach *the information in the received web page is JavaScript*. However, Shadoff teaches a web page containing JavaScript that when executed on a web browser creates a web-based spreadsheet (see web page and source code). Compare to Claim 23, “... **the information in the received web page is JavaScript**”. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Shadoff providing the benefit of a scripting language to implement a web-based spreadsheet.

10. Claims 24-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Cho and in further view of Garman.

In regard to dependent Claim 24, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell or macro of the web-based spreadsheet contains live data that is updates periodically as the spreadsheet is being displayed*. However, Garman teaches that in a spreadsheet environment, it is now common to import and use real-time data items from external real time data sources. In particular, means are commonly provided to import "real time data items" ("RTDIs") into individual spreadsheet cells, such RTDIs frequently being numeric data generated by an external physical process. In general, such RTDIs appear within spreadsheets as simple numeric values that change from time to time. These data items are "real-time," in the sense that they reflect the almost-current state of the process that they attempt to describe. (Col. 1, lines 31-43; compare to Claim 24, **"... at least one cell or macro of the web-based spreadsheet contains live data that is updates periodically as the spreadsheet is being displayed"**). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of live and current financial data.

In regard to dependent Claim 25, Harvey fails to teach that *the live data is stock quotation information*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 25, **"... the live data is stock quotation information"**). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 26, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information is obtained from the server*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 26, “... ***the stock quotation information is obtained from the server***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 27, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information is obtained from a third party*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 27, “... ***the stock quotation information is obtained from a third party***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 28, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information also includes historical information for a stock*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 28, “... ***the stock quotation information also includes historical information for a stock***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 29, Harvey fails to teach that *the live data is currency conversion information*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 29, “... ***the live data is currency conversion information***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 30, Harvey fails to teach *the currency conversion information is obtained from the server*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying

prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 30, “... ***the currency conversion information is obtained from the server***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 31, Harvey fails to teach that *the currency conversion information is obtained from a third party*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 31, “... ***the currency conversion information is obtained from a third party***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

11. Claims 32-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Cho and in further view of Hallberg.

In regard to dependent Claim 32, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains a link to a web page*. However, Hallberg teaches

creating a hyperlink in an empty cell in the worksheet (pp. 596-601; compare to Claim 32, “... **at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains a link to a web page**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Hallberg providing the benefit of linking to other related documents.

In regard to dependent Claim 33, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from an address on the World Wide Web*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink using a picture or any other object that has been embedded in an Excel workbook (pp. 598-601; compare to Claim 33, “... **at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from an address on the World Wide Web**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Hallberg providing the benefit of including images to enhance the content in a web-based spreadsheet.

In regard to dependent Claim 34, Harvey teaches setting the current Column width and the current Row height thereby expanding the size of cells (p. 321, Table 10-1; compare to Claim 34, “... **allowing the user to expand the size of the cell to view more of the image**”).

In regard to dependent Claim 35, Harvey fails to teach *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from a data processing device connected to the user via a network*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink in an empty cell in the worksheet (pp. 596-601; compare to Claim 35, “... **at least one cell**

of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from a data processing device connected to the user via a network"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Cho, and Hallberg providing the benefit of incorporating an image from another web site into the web-based spreadsheet.

12. Claims 37-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Flanagan (JavaScript, The Definitive Guide, 3rd Edition, Copyright 06/1998).

In regard to independent Claim 37, Harvey fails to teach *receiving a request, from a client system, for a spreadsheet web page; reviewing parameters received with the request for the spreadsheet web page, said parameters include a spreadsheet mode and a data ID; sending the requested spreadsheet web page to the client system, based on the parameters received, wherein said spreadsheet web page contains embedded data specific to the requested spreadsheet web page and capable of causing display of a spreadsheet*. However, Flanagan teaches JavaScript code for extracting arguments from a URL (p. 245, Example. 13-5). This code would be used to process a URL query string. Specifically, the Location Object in JavaScript contains a search property that contains any portion of the URL following (and including) a question mark. This is often some sort of query string. In general, the question mark syntax in a URL is a technique for embedding arguments in the URL. While these arguments are usually intended for CGI scripts run on a server, there is no reason why

they cannot also be used in JavaScript-enabled pages (pp. 244-245, subsection 13.8, 2nd paragraph). Compare to Claim 37, ***“receiving a request, from a client system, for a spreadsheet web page; reviewing parameters received with the request for the spreadsheet web page, said parameters include a spreadsheet mode and a data ID; sending the requested spreadsheet web page to the client system, based on the parameters received, wherein said spreadsheet web page contains embedded data specific to the requested spreadsheet web page and capable of causing display of a spreadsheet”***. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to combine the teachings of Harvey and Flanagan providing the benefit of having passed parameters via a URL to a script to have invoked specific modes of operation or to have set specific parameters in the script.

In regard to dependent Claim 38, Harvey fails to teach that *before sending the spreadsheet web page, JavaScript data is embedded into the spreadsheet web page*. However, Flanagan teaches JavaScript code than can perform embedding such data by accepting and parsing data from a URL query (p.244-245, subsection 13.8). Compare to Claim 38, ***“... before sending the spreadsheet web page, JavaScript data is embedded into the spreadsheet web page”***. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to combine the teachings of Harvey and Flanagan providing the benefit of having set initial values.

In regard to dependent Claim 39, Harvey fails to teach *that the data ID identifies a file name*. However, Flanagan teaches that the arguments passed could be anything (pp. 244-245, Example 13-5; compare to Claim 39, ***“... the data ID identifies a file***

name"). One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to combine the teachings of Harvey and Flanagan providing the benefit of defining an argument that was contained in a URL.

In regard to dependent Claim 40, Harvey fails to teach that *the server includes data for more than one spreadsheet web page*. Flanagan teaches JavaScript code that can perform embedding such data by accepting and parsing data from a URL query (p.244-245, subsection 13.8). Compare to Claim 40, "... ***the server includes data for more than one spreadsheet web page***". One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to combine the teachings of Harvey and Flanagan providing the benefit of having set initial values.

13. Claims 44-51 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Shadoff and in further view of Garman.

In regard to dependent Claim 44, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell or macro of the web-based spreadsheet contains live data that is updates periodically as the spreadsheet is being displayed*. However, Garman teaches that in a spreadsheet environment, it is now common to import and use real-time data items from external real time data sources. In particular, means are commonly provided to import "real time data items" ("RTDIs") into individual spreadsheet cells, such RTDIs frequently being numeric data generated by an external physical process. In general, such RTDIs appear within spreadsheets as simple numeric values that change from time to time. These data items are "real-time," in the sense that they reflect the almost-current state of the process that

they attempt to describe. (Col. 1, lines 31-43; compare to Claim 44, “... **at least one cell or macro of the web-based spreadsheet contains live data that is updates periodically as the spreadsheet is being displayed**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of live and current financial data.

In regard to dependent Claim 45, Harvey fails to teach that *the live data is stock quotation information*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 45, “... **the live data is stock quotation information**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 46, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information is obtained from the server*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 46, “... **the stock quotation information is obtained from the server**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 47, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information is obtained from a third party*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 47, “... ***the stock quotation information is obtained from a third party***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 48, Harvey fails to teach that *the stock quotation information also includes historical information for a stock*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 48, “... ***the stock quotation information also includes historical information for a stock***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 49, Harvey fails to teach that *the live data is currency conversion information*. However, Garman teaches exemplary real time data sources (115) include manufacturing processes (e.g., process parameters; material positions, temperatures, volume, density), financial information services (e.g. stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates) and any other source of time dependent variable data (Col. 6, lines 8-14; compare to Claim 49, “... ***the live data is currency conversion information***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 50, Harvey fails to teach *the currency conversion information is obtained from the server*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs) specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 50, “... ***the currency conversion information is obtained from the server***”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

In regard to dependent Claim 51, Harvey fails to teach that *the currency conversion information is obtained from a third party*. However, Garman teaches that for spreadsheet users concerned with financial markets, real time data items or (RTDIs)

specifying prices or interest rates describing various markets are typically imported by reference into a spreadsheet cell from an external computer program that is linked over a computer network to a computer system providing the real time information (Col. 1, lines 44-49; compare to Claim 51, “... **the currency conversion information is obtained from a third party**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Garman providing the benefit of real time stock quotes.

14. Claims 52-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Shadoff and in further view of Hallberg.

In regard to dependent Claim 52, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains a link to a web page*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink in an empty cell in the worksheet (pp. 596-601; compare to Claim 52, “... **at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains a link to a web page**”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Hallberg providing the benefit of linking to other related documents.

In regard to dependent Claim 53, Harvey fails to teach that *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from an address on the World Wide Web*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink using a picture or any other object that has been embedded in an Excel workbook (pp. 598-601; compare to Claim 53, “... **at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained**

from an address on the World Wide Web”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Hallberg providing the benefit of including images to enhance the content in a web-based spreadsheet.

In regard to dependent Claim 54, Harvey teaches setting the current Column width and the current Row height thereby expanding the size of cells (p. 321, Table 10-1; compare to Claim 54, “... ***allowing the user to expand the size of the cell to view more of the image”***).

In regard to dependent Claim 55, Harvey fails to teach *at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from a data processing device connected to the user via a network*. However, Hallberg teaches creating a hyperlink in an empty cell in the worksheet (pp. 596-601; compare to Claim 55, “... ***at least one cell of the web-based spreadsheet contains an image obtained from a data processing device connected to the user via a network”***). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have combined the teachings of Harvey, Shadoff, and Hallberg providing the benefit of incorporating an image from another web site into the web-based spreadsheet.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James H Blackwell whose telephone number is 703-305-0940. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H Feild can be reached on 703-305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

James H. Blackwell
03/03/04


JOSEPH FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER